



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF **SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Heart of America Chapter

**NEWSLETTER** | Edition 87, Volume 2



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## **President**

| Michael Carlson, CSP

## **Vice President**

| Ashley Parker, MS, CSP, CRIS

## **Secretary**

| Mindy Prichard, CSP

## **Treasurer**

| Ravi Narayan, CSP, ARM

## **Past President**

| Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

## **Website & Social Media**

| Dave Hallerud, ALCM

| Derek Farmer, MBA, CSP

## **Newsletter Coordinator**

| Harold Rudd, STS

## **Liaison for Student Sections**

| Phil Shoemaker, CSP, CRIS, CHST

## **Emerging Professionals Co-Chairs**

| Jessie Glenn, MS, GSP

| Anthony Gallagher, GSP

## **Members at Large**

| Tom Metzner, CSP, ARM-P, CFPS

| Dave Hallerud, CSP

## **New Member Engagement**

| Eric Hallerud, CRIS,

## **Promotions Chair**

| Shelly Higgins, CSP

| Ashley Parker, MS, CSP, CRIS



# President's Message

## September 2025

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Hello to my fellow members of the ASSP Heart of America Chapter. We are off to a great start this year and I want to thank you for your continued support, meeting attendance, and survey feedback. I will look forward to our executive committee leading the charge to further our membership value as I know we are off to a great beginning with new support and an exciting bunch of safety professionals.

Thank you, WaterOne for hosting our latest meeting with the Kansas Highway Patrol's PIO, Trooper Baylark. With a strong message against distracted driving, Trooper Baylark's post presentation Q & A could have been an entire meeting on its own. I was proud of our group's interest and feedback that came from a topic that was unique and refreshing. My takeaway in a brief statement is "What would you tell your victim's family if you were at-fault?"

I am looking forward to earning CEUs at this month's presentation on Friday, September 19th with an esteemed speaker, Professor Blocher of UMKC's Bloch School of Management for an interactive topic on presentation and trainings with a clear purpose. The Past President and current VP of Education of Toastmasters Freedom to Speak Club, Ravi Narayan will also be included in this special event.

Our new venture for emerging professionals is hosting a kick-off meeting that our co-chairs, Jessie Glenn, MS, GSP, and Anthony Gallagher, GSP are planning at Chicken N Pickle that will invite our new professionals to join them in this event. Whether you are a student, recent graduate, new to the industry, or are transitioning careers into safety, this is the group to be around. If you are unsure of going, that is your sign to go. Thank you, both for leading this new interest group within our chapter!

We are doing and achieving great things this year and there are many thanks to be given to our board and executive committee members who are making it possible. Thank you!

Michael Carlson, CSP





State of Kansas Chapter

# NEW MEMBERS

## WELCOME!!!

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**Leon Sylvester**



**Collin Lynn Braum, ASP**



**Mr. Quade Joseph Othic**



**Jose Armando Bermudez, GSP**



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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## Jessie Glenn | GSP



We're thrilled to shine a spotlight on Jessie Glenn, the driving force behind the Emerging Professionals Group within our Heart of America Chapter. Jessie has been instrumental in creating this group to support and connect safety professionals at the start of their careers. We recently had the chance to sit down with her to learn more about the group's progress and impact so far.

### How the group is going so far?

*The group is going great! We are in the process of getting together our kickoff event and getting a chance to meet so many emerging professionals. We hope to make these meetings reoccurring and beneficial for everyone!*

### What are the goals of the group?

- *Creating connections and networking opportunities for early-career professionals*
- *Providing mentorship and learning resources*
- *Encouraging professional growth and leadership development*
- *Engagement within the ASSP community*

### What can members expect to get out of joining this group?

*Members will gain access to a dynamic community of peers who are navigating the early stages of their careers in safety. They will have the chance to mingle with those in a variety of industries and positions. Through regular networking events, mentorship opportunities, and career building, members will be able to grow their professional network, sharpen their soft skills, and gain insights from other professionals like them. The group also provides an environment to explore career paths and exchange ideas through meaningful connections.*

### How can others join or get involved?

*It's easy to get involved! Just share your contact information to stay up to date and join us at any of our upcoming Emerging Professionals events. We'd love to have you be a part of the community!*

### Any upcoming initiatives or events?

*Yes! We're planning to host our exciting kickoff event this fall at Chicken N' Pickle in Overland Park. We're hoping for a fantastic turnout. We'd love to see you there!*



## Upcoming Safety & Health Events

September 23 @ 8:00 am - 5:30 pm	Missouri Association of Manufacturers EHS Conference	The Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks
September 24 @ 8:00 am - 1:30 pm	Missouri Association of Manufacturers EHS Conference	The Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks
October 14-17, 2025	Kansas Safety & Health Conference	Manhattan, KS

## Upcoming HOA Chapter Meetings

September 19, @ 11:30 am - 3:45 pm	Heart of America ASSP Meeting	UCM / Innovations Campus	Topic: Toast Masters - Presentation Skills	Speaker: Ravi Narayan
October 10, @ 11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Heart of America ASSP Meeting	Weber Inc. Kansas City, MO	Topic: Prevention Through Design / Oktoberfest Lunch & Tour	Speaker: Weber Inc.

## Upcoming Emerging Professionals Events

TBD	Emerging Professionals	Chicken & Pickle, Overland Park
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The Chapter website provides information regarding upcoming events and training held by our Chapter, other ASSP Chapters, ASSP, and from other organizations with safety, health, environmental and risk management topics that may interest you. Please visit the website regularly to view upcoming events that may not be specifically listed in the newsletter.

## HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER

### HISTORICAL SUMMARY



**Chartered:**  
**March 24, 1939**

10th chapter of the American  
Society of Safety Professionals



**First President:**  
**Col. W. W. Williams**  
(1939-1944)



**1940s-1950s**  
Key role connecting safety  
professionals across the Midwest



**Later decades**  
Hosted regional safety  
conferences, supported certification





# Distracted Driving

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**Trooper Tiffany  
Baylark**



**Kansas Highway  
Patrol**



# CHAPTER SPONSORS

## THANK YOU!

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### Platinum Sponsors



**SafetyCulture**

### Gold Sponsors



**US COMPLIANCE**

### Silver Sponsors



**STRATEGOS**  
INTERNATIONAL



# JOB OPENINGS

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If you or someone that you know in the safety profession are looking for employment, jobs openings are posted on our Chapter website. Please check out our website for recent job postings.

<https://kc.assp.org>

- 1) Safety Director
- 2) Industrial Hygienist
- 3) Safety Manager

## Looking for a Job?

If so, then send your resume to

[president@kc.assp.org](mailto:president@kc.assp.org)



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## MEMBERS

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### President

Michael Carlson  
[president@kc.assp.org](mailto:president@kc.assp.org)



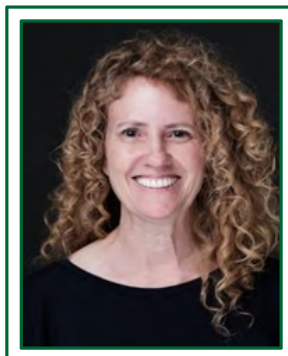
### Vice-President

Ashley Parker  
[vp@kc.assp.org](mailto:vp@kc.assp.org)



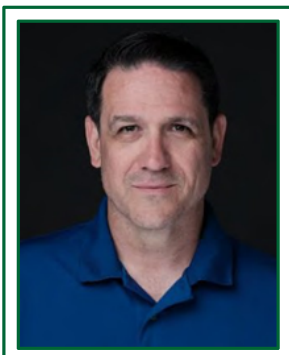
### Treasurer

Ravi Narayan  
[treasurer@kc.assp.org](mailto:treasurer@kc.assp.org)



### Secretary

Mindy Prichard  
[secretary@kc.assp.org](mailto:secretary@kc.assp.org)



### Past President

Derek Farmer



### Members at Large

Tom Metzner



### New Member Engagement

Eric Hallerud



### Promotions Chair

Shelly Higgins

